



Appendix I

FIRE PREVENTION PLAN

Objectives:

1. Reduce the threat of human-caused fires through visitor and employee education.
2. Integrate the prevention message into interpretive programs.

General Actions:

Twenty human-caused fires occurred at Badlands National Park from 1974 to 1999. The following General Action Items have been identified as elements in the park's overall Fire Prevention Program. They are designed to address the two major causes of human-caused fires at Badlands National Park in the last 16 years, those being fireworks and equipment.

- All members of the park's staff will be familiar with this plan and be able to explain it to other interested parties.
Responsible person: All Division Chiefs, ongoing
- Fire prevention will be discussed at park safety meetings. Proper use of equipment by park staff will be emphasized.
Responsible person: Park Safety Officer, ongoing
- The Pinnacles District Ranger will liaison with local fireworks vendors regarding park regulations pertaining to fireworks, June-August annually.
- Interpretive programs and visitor contacts will include fire prevention messages (particularly fireworks use) to alert visitors concerning current fire danger conditions.
Responsible person: Chief of Resource Education, ongoing
- Entrance station personnel will include brief fire prevention messages to arriving visitors during periods of high fire danger. Additionally, "NO FIREWORKS ALLOWED" signs will be posted for Independence Day.
Responsible person: Supervisory Visitor Use Assistant, ongoing
- Enforcement rangers will include fire prevention messages in their routine visitor contacts, particularly campground and back-country users.
Responsible person: District rangers, ongoing.

Fire Prevention Analysis:

The fire prevention analysis is included in the following pages. The analysis contains the detailed prevention actions identified for specific areas or fire problems in eight Fire Prevention Zones. It will be reviewed annually and updated if changes occur which alter the identified Risks, Hazards, and Values.



Fire Prevention Zone #1: Boundary Interface

Hazard = *moderate* Mixed-grass prairie in continuous stands, some areas of north and west boundary are down-slope from adjacent lands (moderate slopes).
Value = *moderate* Political values; adjacent agricultural land users have low tolerance for fire. Some private structures located near boundary.
Risk = *low* Limited human use.

Specific Prevention Actions Required:

1. General fire prevention actions.
2. Liaison with neighbors and United States Forest Service permittees.
3. Ongoing hazard fuel reduction.

Responsible persons: Chief of Resource Management, Fire Program Coordinator, and District Rangers, ongoing

Fire Prevention Zone #2: Sage Creek Campground

Hazard = *high* Fine, flashy fuels continuous throughout campground. Moderate slopes on west side leading toward park boundary.
Value = *moderate* Visitor safety and property, limited improvements (pit toilets, bulletin board, refuse collection).
Risk = *high* History of illegal campfires, charcoal fires are permitted. Major entry point into Badlands Wilderness.

Specific Prevention Actions Required:

1. Campground bulletin board will contain fire prevention messages.
2. Education/enforcement in campground.
3. Fireworks enforcement.
4. General fire prevention actions.

Responsible persons: Pinnacles District Ranger and Resource Education staff, ongoing

Fire Prevention Zone #3: Buffalo Corrals

Hazard = *moderate* Fine, flashy fuels continuous. Located on gentle upslope.
Value = *high* Extensive corral complex of wood and steel construction.
Risk = *moderate* Risks are associated with bison round-up activities. Historical fire occurrence during round-up activities. Area closed to public, but some "curiosity" use occurs.

Specific Prevention Actions Required:

1. Proper use of equipment during work activities.
2. Safety message on smoking given prior to work activities.
3. Pre-position wildland engine at corrals during major round-up operations.
4. Enforcement of closed area regulations.
5. Ongoing hazard fuel reduction.

Responsible persons: Chief of Maintenance, Chief of Resource Management, Fire Program Coordinator, ongoing
Chief of Resource Protection, during round-up operations.



Fire Prevention Zone #4: Pinnacles Ranger Station

Hazard = *low* Fine, flashy fuels adjacent to mowed residence area.
Value = *high* Residence, ranger station, barns, corrals.
Risk = *high* Primary visitor entry corridor, residents include children, historical fireworks use area nearby (Pinnacles Overlook), moderate equipment and off-road vehicle use.

Specific Prevention Actions Required:

1. General fire prevention actions.
2. Continued internal communications with residents and Pinnacles employees.
3. Ongoing hazard fuel reduction.

Responsible persons: Pinnacles District Ranger, Pinnacles residence occupants, seasonal Pinnacles District staff, Fire Program Coordinator, ongoing

Fire Prevention Zone #5: Cedar Pass Developed Area

Hazard = *low* Grass fuels interrupted by numerous roads and trails.
Value = *high* Residential area, numerous government buildings, concessioner developments, large campground, major traffic corridor.
Risk = *high* Historical fire occurrence associated with campground and fireworks. Much human activity associated with visitors, park operations, and government housing area.

Specific Prevention Actions Required:

1. Ongoing hazard fuel reduction.
2. General fire prevention actions.
3. Education/enforcement in campground.
4. Fire prevention message delivered in evening interpretive programs during high fire danger periods.
5. Campground bulletin board will contain fire prevention message.
6. Continued internal communications with residents and employees.

Responsible persons: Division chiefs, Fire Program Coordinator, ongoing.

Fire Prevention Zone #6: White River Visitor Center

Hazard = *low* Fine, flashy fuels adjacent to mowed developed area.
Value = *high* Government buildings, residence.
Risk = *high* Moderate visitor activity, major traffic corridor on two exposures, residents include children.



Specific Prevention Actions Required:

1. Ongoing hazard fuel reduction.
2. Education/enforcement.
3. Continued internal communications with residents and employees.

Responsible persons: Stronghold District Ranger, Residence occupants, Stronghold District seasonal staff, ongoing

Fire Prevention Zone #7: Backcountry/Wilderness

Hazard = *low* Fine, flashy fuels intermixed with non-vegetated "badlands" features.
Value = *moderate* No structures, cultural or natural resources that would be significantly threatened by wildfire.
Risk = *low* Moderate to low back-country use. Open fires not permitted.

Specific Prevention Actions Required:

1. Backcountry handout contains fire prevention message.
2. General fire prevention actions.
3. Bulletin board at Sage Creek Campground contains fire prevention message.
4. Education/enforcement during back-country patrols.

Responsible persons: Pinnacles District Ranger, Resource Education staff, ongoing.

Fire Prevention Zone #8: Highway 240 Corridor

Hazard = *low* Fine, flashy fuels and non-vegetated "badlands" features.
Value = *moderate* Boardwalks, cultural or natural resource values which would be significantly threatened by wildfire.
Risk = *high* Historical incidence of human caused fires; primarily fireworks. Major traffic corridor.

Specific Prevention Actions Required:

1. General fire prevention actions.
2. Education/enforcement.

Responsible persons: Cedar Pass and Pinnacles District rangers, ongoing

Fire Prevention Zone #9: Utility Corridors

Hazard = *moderate* Fine, flashy fuels and non-vegetated "badlands" features. Smoke may arc electrical wires.
Value = *moderate* Utility poles, junction boxes, and pipeline control valves.
Risk = *low* No fires on record to substantiate risk.

Specific Prevention Actions Required:

1. General fire prevention actions.
2. Education/enforcement.

Responsible persons: District rangers, ongoing



FIRE PREVENTION ZONES

1. Boundary Interface Zone

hazard: *moderate*

value: *moderate*

risk: *high*

5. Cedar Pass Developed Area Zone

hazard: *low*

value: *high*

risk: *high*

2. Sage Creek Campground Zone

hazard: *high*

value: *high*

risk: *high*

6. White River Visitor Center Zone

hazard: *low*

value: *high*

risk: *high*

3. Buffalo Corrals Zone

hazard: *moderate*

value: *high*

risk: *moderate*

7. Backcountry/Wilderness Zone

hazard: *low*

value: *moderate*

risk: *low*

4. Pinnacles Ranger Station Zone

hazard: *moderate*

value: *high*

risk: *high*

8. Tour Road Corridor Zone

hazard: *low*

value: *moderate*

risk: *high*

9. Utility Corridors

hazard: *moderate*

value: *moderate*

risk: *low*

